

# Environmental Public Health Tracking



- Montana Statewide Advisory Group Meeting
- 1/26/06

# Today's Objectives

- Updates on funding, activities, evaluation
- Legislative Review: recommendations, discussion
- Partner updates
- Local EH Projects
- Research updates
- Action Items



# *Five-Year Vision Statement*

- *We identify and prevent health conditions that may be caused by people's interactions with and exposures to their environment. We bridge the gap between public health and the environment through linked data, education, and collaboration.*

# Short, Medium, and Long Term Outcomes

## Five Component Areas:

- § IT/Technical
- § Outreach and Education
- § Advocacy and Environmental Justice
- § Policy and Legislation
- § Collaborative Activities/Pilots/Partnerships

# Meeting format



- Input needed
  - ◆ Legislative work comments
  - ◆ Future directions
- Action Items:  
Activities to follow up on and who will do it.
- Parking lot

# Funding



- 10-month cost extension ends 7/31/06
- New competitive RFP due to be released in Feb/March 06
- CDC proposing a 5-year cycle for next round

# Current contractors

- DEQ-enhance existing databases to improve data quality prior to linking
- Bureau of Mines at MT Tech-radon in air, water and comparison to geology.
- NRIS- interactive profiles, health data web site technical assistance
- Local projects

# Contractors continued

- Larry Gostin, Consultant-Center for Law and Public Health -review PH law related to tracking and provide recommended legislation



# Current DPHHS projects



- IT network implementation plan 1/31/06
- Developing a lead data system that will be our first data integration model
  - ◆ BLEDS

# On-going Workgroups

- Fish and Contaminants Interagency working group
- Heavy Metals Working Group-Interagency
- Comprehensive Cancer, data workgroup
- Interagency Uranium/Radon workgroup
- Children's Environmental Health Group

# Outreach

- Physician Ed.- Dana Headapohl
- Daycare providers conf. in 2006
- MEHA-4/3/2006
- Website updates/newsletter 1/06
- NACCHO/ASTHO conference 3/06



# Tracking EPI Update

## Chris Korhonen

- BRFSS questions on EH-results from 2004



# Intern activities

## ■ Mosey Hardin

- ◆ Environmental Justice
- ◆ Advocacy Outreach



# Evaluation Recommendations

- Program evaluation completed 11/05
  - ◆ Overall positive on 5 areas of interest
- **Partnership building suggestions**
  - ◆ Increase focus on implementation
  - ◆ Continue to support local level efforts
  - ◆ Tools and strategies for maintaining the energy and expand partnerships

# Recommendations cont.

- ◆ Continue to seek engagement of American Indians, Advocacy Groups, and professional groups

## ■ **Assessing and Prioritizing- B**

- ◆ Cont. EH assessments
- ◆ Address identified priorities
- ◆ Network with peer states and region
- ◆ Surveillance should be sensitive to potential problems

# Recommendations cont.

- ◆ Conduct an EJ assessment in the state

## ■ **Training and Public Outreach-A**

- ◆ Raise general awareness/media exposure
- ◆ Target state and local policy leaders
- ◆ Continue outreach to regions/communities
- ◆ Seek activities that create multiple benefits to goals of program



# Recommendations cont.

## ■ Planning data linkages- C

- ◆ Long-term financial and admin support
- ◆ Expand network of collaborators, include private health care
- ◆ Pursue progress in increments through projects and case studies

# Recommendations cont.

- Internal training and staff development- B
  - Advocate internally for EPHT
  - Seek support from higher levels of administration
  - Reinvigorating routine staff trainings/discussions

